



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/540,920	06/29/2005	Wy Mun Kong	Q83222	3343
23373 7590 06/16/2009 SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W. SUITE 800 WASHINGTON, DC 20037				
EXAMINER PULLIAS, JESSE SCOTT				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2626				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
06/16/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/540,920

Applicant(s)

KONG ET AL.

Examiner

JESSE S. PULLIAS

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 April 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/27/09 has been entered.
2. This office action is in response to correspondence filed 04/27/09 regarding application 10/540920. Claims 1, 5, 13, 22, and 26 were amended and claims 1-32 are pending in the application and have been considered.

Response to Arguments

3. The arguments on page 12 of the Remarks regarding dependent claims 9 and 11 have been fully considered but are not persuasive.
4. The allegation on page 12 of the Remarks that the multi-language feature of Rankin does not depend on translation but is based upon pre-recorded public announcements concurrently in several languages, and so the system would be incompatible with, or at least would not need, the translation capability of Kumano has no support in Rankin. The sections of Rankin that teach providing language choices are [0029] and [0067]; there is no evidence in Rankin in these paragraphs or anywhere else, as was noted in the advisory action mailed 03/13/09, to support that Rankin is

"based upon pre-recorded public announcements concurrently in several languages" as alleged in the Remarks. Further, even if Rankin did operate using pre-recorded public announcements concurrently in several languages, it is unclear why this by itself would somehow make Rankin incompatible with Kumano. In fact, in a broadcasting environment, translation on the fly, as taught by Kumano, would be all the more appropriate e.g. for a situation when an additional language that was not prerecorded and stored is requested by the user.

5. The assertion on page 12 of the Remarks that "for text messages, the local device being a personal PDA, PC, or the like would not have such capability as part of the system contemplated by Rankin", in addition to having no support in Rankin or Kumano, also relies on features which are not claimed. Claims 9 and 11 simply require "real-time computer translation" and do not mention any local device. Further, Col 1 lines 9-10 of Kumano recite "...translating natural language text from a first language to a second language using a computer". Rankin teaches the user terminal may be "a laptop PC" [0012] which would suggest that even if a local device performing real time translation were required by the claims, the local device of Rankin would have the capability.

6. The remaining arguments on pages 9-12 are moot in view of the new grounds for rejection.

Claim Objections

7. In Claim 5 line 3, the examiner assumes "each person having respective identifiable locations" should be "each person having a respective identifiable location".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

8. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

9. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 13 recites the limitation "said common venue" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. For purposes of examination, the limitation will be interpreted as "a common venue".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rankin et al. (2002/0135515) in view of McCarten et al. (5,959,596).

With respect to claim 1, Rankin suggests a multi-language communication method for providing concurrently communications in at least one of a plurality of selectable languages from a source located at a venue to each of a plurality of persons having locations ([0029], a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, [0033], transmitting to user terminals suggests concurrent

communications with more than one terminal used by more than one passenger), and discloses:

electronically providing to each of said persons at a location access to a plurality of language options ([0029], a base station beacon communicates with transport beacons in geographic locations which offer different user-terminal-selectable languages, [0033], transmitting to user terminals);

electronically receiving at said source from each of one or more of said persons in said venue an indication of a respective choice of language chosen by said respective person from said language options for said location ([0029] base station receives preference from user terminals in order to transmit information in user-terminal-selectable languages);

Rankin suggests storing at said source said language choices in a database in conjunction with said locations ([0029], (user data and geographical positions are stored, which suggests that the chosen language is part of the user data and is also stored, since it is used for generating customized languages announcements, etc.); and

Rankin discloses making said language choices accessible by one or more applications so that said applications can when operated selectively in said venue provide output to each respective person in the respective language choice at said location ([0029], public address, news announcements, and adverts are provided in the chosen language, [0033] in response to present geographical location).

Rankin does not specifically mention each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in said

venue, and respective identifiable locations in said venue.

McCarten discloses each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in a venue, and respective identifiable locations in a venue (**Col 1 lines 44-46**, a set of unique seat display units which are associated with each seat in the airplane).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin by providing communications in at least one of a plurality of selectable languages from a source located at a venue to each of a plurality of persons as taught by Rankin, having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in said venue as taught by McCarten; electronically providing to each of said persons as taught by Rankin, at a respective identifiable location in said venue as taught by McCarten, access to a plurality of language options as taught by Rankin; electronically receiving at said source from each of one or more of said persons in said venue an indication of a respective choice of language chosen by said respective person from said language options as taught by Rankin, for said respective identifiable location in said venue as taught by McCarten; storing at said source said language choices in a database as suggested by Rankin, in conjunction with said respective identifiable locations in said venue taught by McCarten; and making said language choices accessible by one or more applications so that said applications can when operated selectively in said venue provide output to each respective person in the respective language choice as taught by Rankin, at said respective identifiable location in said venue taught by McCarten, in order to allow digital communications and

entertainment to be associated with substantially every seat in an airplane (**McCarten Col 1 lines 5-9**), thus avoiding the need for individual passengers to bring their own devices on board, as suggested by McCarten (**Col 1 lines 17-20**). Such a modification could be made by using the user terminals which are personal to the user taught by Rankin (**[0012]**) for each seat in the venue.

With respect to claim 22, Rankin suggests a multi-language communication method for communicating concurrently with a plurality of passengers in a common venue in at least one of a plurality of selectable languages from a source in said common venue to each of said plurality of passengers having locations (**[0029]**, a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, **[0033]**, transmitting to user terminals suggests concurrent communications with more than one terminal used by more than one passenger), comprising the following steps disclosed by Rankin:

electronically providing to each of said passengers in said common venue access to a plurality of language options (**[0029]**, a base station beacon communicates with transport beacons in geographic locations which offer different user-terminal-selectable languages, **[0033]**, transmitting to user terminals);

electronically receiving from each of one or more of said persons in said common venue an indication of a respective choice of language chosen by said respective person from said language options for delivery at a location (**[0029]** base station

receives preference from user terminals in order to transmit information in user-terminal-selectable languages); and

providing to each of said passengers who has chosen a language access to content in his or her respective language of choice at a location in said common venue ([0029], public address is provided in the chosen language, [0033], advertisements are delivered to each user terminal).

Rankin does not specifically mention each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in said common venue, and respective identifiable locations in said common venue.

McCarten discloses each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and respective identifiable locations in a common venue (Col 1 lines 44-46, a set of unique seat display units which are associated with each seat in the airplane).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin by communicating concurrently with a plurality of passengers in a common venue in at least one of a plurality of selectable languages from a source in said common venue to each of said plurality of passengers, as taught by Rankin, having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in said common venue as taught by McCarten, by electronically providing to each of said passengers in said common venue access to a plurality of language; electronically receiving from each of one or more of said persons in said common venue an indication of a respective choice of language chosen by said

respective person from said language options for delivery as taught by Rankin, at a respective identifiable location in said common venue as taught by McCarten; and providing to each of said passengers who has chosen a language access to content in his or her respective language of choice as taught by Rankin, at a respective identifiable location in said common venue as taught by McCarten, for reasons similar to those of claim 1.

12. Claims 2-5, 7, 12, 13, 17, 20, 21, 23-26, and 28-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rankin et al. (2002/0135515) in view of McCarten et al. (5,959,596), in further view of Poch (5,152,003).

With respect to claim 5, Rankin suggests a multi-language communication method for making an announcement concurrently in at least one of a plurality of selectable languages to a plurality of persons, each person having a location ([0029], a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, [0033], transmitting to user terminals suggests concurrent communications with more than one terminal used by more than one passenger), and discloses:

providing to each of said persons in said common venue electronic access to a plurality of language options ([0029], a basestation beacon communicates with transport beacons in geographic locations which offer different user-terminal-selectable languages, [0033], transmitting to user terminals);

receiving from each of one or more of said persons in said common venue an electronic indication of a respective choice of language chosen by said respective person from said language options ([0029] base station receives preference from user terminals in order to transmit information in user-terminal-selectable languages);

electronically making said announcement in the form of a public announcement over a public address system in said common venue ([0029], public address or advertisements are provided in the chosen language); and

electronically making said announcement available to each person in said common venue who has indicated a language choice in the form of a personal announcement over a respective personal address system in said respective language choice at said location ([0029], public address is provided in the chosen language, [0033], advertisements are delivered to each user terminal, so they are personally addressed);

whereby a respective person who has chosen a language can access said personal announcement in their respective language choice by means of their respective personal address system ([0029], a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, [0033], transmitting to user terminals).

Rankin does not specifically mention each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and respective identifiable locations in a common venue.

McCarten discloses each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable

locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and respective identifiable locations in a common venue (**Col 1 lines 44-46**, a set of unique seat display units which are associated with each seat in the airplane).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin such that each of a plurality of persons has a respective identifiable location relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and such that the locations are respective identifiable locations in a common venue, for reasons similar to those of claim 1.

Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a principal language.

Poch discloses a principal language (**Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten to include a principal language as taught by Poch, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

With respect to claim 13, Rankin discloses multi-language communication system for making an announcement to a plurality of persons in a common venue in at least one of a plurality of selectable languages from a source in said common venue to each of said plurality of persons at a location (**[0029]**, a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, **[0033]**, transmitting to user

terminals), comprising:

a database for storing a respective language choice of each of said persons on the basis of said location ([0029], user data and geographical positions are stored in storage which is a database since it stores associated data fields);

a public address system for making said announcement in the form of a public announcement ([0029], public address or advertisements are provided in the chosen language); and

a plurality of personal address systems, each for making said announcement available to a respective person in the form of a personal announcement in the respective language choice of that respective person at a location ([0029], public address is provided in the chosen language, [0033], advertisements are delivered to each user terminal, so they are personally addressed);

a control system in said common venue operable to select each of said personal announcements on the basis of said public announcement and said language choices, and to direct select each of said personal announcements to the corresponding personal address system of each respective person at a location ([0029], a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, [0033], transmitting to user terminals, thereby making it a personal announcement in the chosen language);

whereby each of said persons can access said personal announcement in their respective language choice ([0033], transmitting to user terminals, thereby making it a personal announcement in the chosen language).

Rankin does not specifically mention each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and respective identifiable locations in a common venue.

McCarten discloses each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and respective identifiable locations in a common venue (**Col 1 lines 44-46**, a set of unique seat display units which are associated with each seat in the airplane).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin such that each of a plurality of persons has a respective identifiable location relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and such that the locations are respective identifiable locations in a common venue, for reasons similar to those of claim 1.

Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a principal language, and wherein said language choice of a respective person comprises said principal language where said person has not indicated a language choice.

Poch discloses a principal language, and wherein said language choice of a respective person comprises said principal language where said person has not indicated a language choice (**Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations...receivers programmed to receive message in one language).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten to include a principal

language, and wherein said language choice of a respective person comprises said principal language where said person has not indicated a language choice, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

With respect to claim 26, Rankin suggests a multi-language communication system for communicating concurrently with a plurality of passengers in a common venue in at least one of a plurality of selectable languages from a source in said common venue to each of said plurality of passengers having locations ([0029], a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, [0033], transmitting to user terminals suggests concurrent communications with more than one terminal used by more than one passenger), and discloses:

Rankin suggests a database for storing a respective language choice of each of said passengers on the basis of said locations ([0029], user data (which suggests language choice) and geographical positions are stored which is a database since it stores associated data fields);

Rankin further discloses a control system in said common venue operable to retrieve said language choices from said database and operable to provide each of said passengers with access to content in his or her respective language of choice ([0029], user data is stored in storage and retrieved for providing passengers content in respective language choices);

a plurality of output devices ([0029] user terminals), each assigned to a

respective passenger for providing said content to said respective passenger in his or her respective language of choice or, at a location **([0029]**, personalized services and adverts suggests each passenger has a user terminal).

McCarten discloses each of a plurality of persons having respective identifiable locations relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and respective identifiable locations in a common venue **(Col 1 lines 44-46**, a set of unique seat display units which are associated with each seat in the airplane).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin such that each of a plurality of persons has a respective identifiable location relative to other of said plurality of persons in a common venue, and such that the locations are respective identifiable locations in a common venue, for reasons similar to those of claim 1.

Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention if no language was chosen by a respective passenger, providing in a principal language.

Poch discloses if no language was chosen by a respective passenger, providing in a principal language **(Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations...receivers programmed to receive message in one language).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten such that if no language was chosen by a respective passenger, providing in a principal language, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

With respect to claim 2, Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention those of said persons who do not choose a language are assigned a language choice being a principal language.

Poch discloses those of said persons who do not choose a language are assigned a language choice being a principal language (**Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations...receivers programmed to receive message in one language).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten such that those of said persons who do not choose a language are assigned a language choice being a principal language as taught by Poch, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

With respect to claim 3, Rankin discloses said application is an announcement system for making an announcement in the form of a public announcement over a public address system (**[0029]**, system provides public address announcements); and

making said announcement available to each person who has indicated a language choice in the form of a personal announcement over a respective personal address system in said respective language choice (**[0029]**, a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages to transport beacons in identifiable geographic locations, **[0033]**, transmitting to user

terminals, thereby making it a personal announcement in the chosen language);

whereby a respective person who has chosen a language can access said personal announcement in their respective language choice by means of their respective personal address system ([0033], transmitting to user terminals, thereby making it a personal announcement in the chosen language).

Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a principal language.

Poch discloses a principal language (**Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin to include a principal language as taught by Poch, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

With respect to claim 4, Rankin discloses said application is an announcement system for making an announcement in the form of a public announcement by means of a public announcement system, wherein said announcement is presented by means of said public announcement system in at least each language choice ([0029], a basestation beacon provides public address announcements in different user-terminal-selectable languages, so the announcement will be made in each chosen language).

With respect to claim 7, Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention said personal announcement comprises a prerecorded audio translation of said

announcement in the respective language choice of a respective person, played over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person.

Poch discloses a personal announcement comprises a prerecorded audio translation of an announcement in a respective language choice of a respective person, played over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person (**Fig 2, Speaker, Col 3 lines 65-67**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten such that a personal announcement comprises a prerecorded audio translation of an announcement in a respective language choice of a respective person, played over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person, in order to provide easy access for retrieval of the messages, as suggested by Poch (**Col 4 lines 3-5**).

With respect to claim 12, Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention making said announcement available to each of said persons who has not indicated a language choice in the form of a personal announcement over a personal address system in said principal language.

Poch discloses making said announcement available to each of said persons who has not indicated a language choice in the form of a personal announcement over a personal address system in said principal language (**Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations...receivers programmed to receive message in one language).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten by making said announcement available to each of said persons who has not indicated a language choice in the form of a personal announcement over a personal address system in said principal language, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

With respect to claim 17, Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a prerecorded audio translation of the announcement in each available language choice, and is configured to play the appropriate audio translation corresponding to the respective language choice of a respective person over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person.

Poch discloses a prerecorded audio translation of the announcement in each available language choice, and is configured to play the appropriate audio translation corresponding to the respective language choice of a respective person over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person (**Fig 2, Speaker, Col 3 lines 65-67**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten such that a prerecorded audio translation of the announcement in each available language choice, and is configured to play the appropriate audio translation corresponding to the respective language choice of a respective person over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said

respective person, in order to provide easy access for retrieval of the messages, as suggested by Poch (**Col 4 lines 3-5**).

With respect to claim 20, Rankin does not specifically mention a console having a display and a data entry device for each of said persons for providing said language options to each of said persons and to allow each respective person to select said language option.

McCarten discloses a console having a display and a data entry device for each of said persons for providing said language options to each of said persons and to allow each respective person to select said language option (**Abstract**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin to include a console having a display and a data entry device for each of said persons for providing said language options to each of said persons and to allow each respective person to select said language option, in order to provide for applications such as gaming and data processing, as suggested by McCarten (**Col 1 lines 18-22**).

With respect to claim 21, Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a console having a display and a data entry device for each of said persons, each of said consoles providing access to a plurality of predefined service request options, so that each of said persons can request the corresponding service by means of said console.

McCarten discloses a console having a display and a data entry device for each

of said persons, each of said consoles providing access to a plurality of predefined service request options, so that each of said persons can request the corresponding service by means of said console **(Abstract)**.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin to include a console having a display and a data entry device for each of said persons, each of said consoles providing access to a plurality of predefined service request options, so that each of said persons can request the corresponding service by means of said console, for reasons similar to those of claim 20.

With respect to claim 23, Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention providing to each of said passengers who has not chosen a language access to content in a principal language.

Poch discloses providing to each of said passengers who has not chosen a language access to content in a principal language (**Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations....receivers programmed to receive message in one language).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin by providing to each of said passengers who has not chosen a language access to content in a principal language, as taught by Poch, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

With respect to claim 24, Rankin discloses said content comprises promotional material ([0029], adverts are provided).

With respect to claim 25, Rankin discloses providing at least one announcement to each of said passengers by means of a personal address system, wherein said announcement is in the respective language of choice of each passenger ([0033], transmitting to user terminals, thereby making it a personal announcement in the chosen language).

With respect to claim 28, Rankin suggests said output device is a display, an audio output device, or both a display and an audio output device ([0033], advertising material, e.g. has to be either auditory or visual, [0003], PDAs and Laptops contain audio and video output devices).

With respect to claim 29, Rankin suggests said announcement comprises visual material displayable for each respective passenger on a display assigned to that respective passenger device ([0003], PDAs and Laptops contain video output devices).

With respect to claim 30, Rankin suggests said announcement comprises an audio announcement directed for each respective passenger to an audio output assigned to that respective passenger, whereby each passenger can listen to said announcement ([0033], advertising material, e.g. has to be either auditory or visual,

[0003], PDAs and Laptops contain audio output devices).

With respect to claim 31, Rankin discloses a public address system for making said announcement in the form of a public announcement to said passengers (**[0029]**, a basestation beacon provides public address announcements).

Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a principal language.

Poch discloses a principal language (**Col 2-3 lines 59-10**, one language being associated with a message identification datum and translations).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten to include a principal language, in order to avoid needlessly or arbitrarily translating into a language not desired by a user.

13. Claims 6, 16, 27, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rankin et al. (2002/0135515) in view of McCarten et al. (5,959,596), in further view of Poch (5,152,003), in further view of Li et al. (6,205,418).

With respect to claims 6, 16, and 27, Rankin, McCarten, and Poch do not specifically mention making said respective language choices accessible by an attendant so that said attendant can anticipate the language needs of a respective person.

Li discloses making said respective language choices accessible by an attendant

so that said attendant can anticipate the language needs of a respective person

(Abstract).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch by making said respective language choices accessible by an attendant so that said attendant can anticipate the language needs of a respective person, as taught by Li, in order to increase marketability in the international sector, as suggested by Li (**Col 1 lines 13-15**).

With respect to claim 32, Rankin, McCarten, and Poch do not specifically mention the system is operable to receive said language choices from an operator who has received the respective language choices from one or more of the passengers.

Li discloses the system is operable to receive said language choices from an operator who has received the respective language choices (**Abstract**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch such that the system is operable to receive said language choices from an operator who has received the respective language choices, as taught by Li, for reasons similar to those of claim 6.

14. Claims 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rankin et al. (2002/0135515) in view of McCarten et al. (5,959,596), in further view of Poch (5,152,003), in further view of Glenn (6,434,518).

With respect to claim 8, Rankin discloses a personal announcement ([0029], public address is provided in the chosen language, [0033], advertisements are delivered to each user terminal, so they are personally addressed).

Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a prerecorded audio translation in the language choice of a respective person.

Poch discloses a prerecorded audio translation in the language choice of a respective person (Col 3 lines 65-66, Col 4 lines 31-37).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten to include a prerecorded audio translation in the language choice of a respective person, in order to provide the information in a language the user understands, as suggested by Poch (Col 4 lines 35-37), which could have advantages such as easy access, as suggested by Poch (Col 3-4 lines 65-5).

Rankin, McCarten and Poch do not specifically mention the personal announcement is accessible by means of a headphone or ear-piece output allocated to said respective person, whereby said respective person can access said personal announcement by means of a headset connected to said output.

Glenn discloses a message is accessible by means of a headphone or ear-piece output allocated to a respective person, whereby a respective person can access said personal announcement by means of a headset connected to said output (Col 3 lines 40-42).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch such that the personal announcement is accessible by means of a headphone or ear-piece output allocated to said respective person, whereby said respective person can access said personal announcement by means of a headset connected to said output, in order to avoid disturbing others by using loudspeakers.

With respect to claim 10, Rankin discloses a personal announcement ([0029], public address is provided in the chosen language, [0033], advertisements are delivered to each user terminal, so they are personally addressed).

Rankin, McCarten, and Poch do not specifically mention said personal announcement comprises a prerecorded text translation of said announcement in the language choice of a respective person, accessible by means of a display allocated to said respective person, whereby said respective person can read said personal announcement on said display.

Glenn discloses a message comprises a prerecorded text translation of the message in the language choice of a respective person, accessible by means of a display allocated to said respective person, whereby said respective person can read said message on said display (Fig. 2).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch such that said personal announcement comprises a prerecorded text translation of said announcement

in the language choice of a respective person, accessible by means of a display allocated to said respective person, whereby said respective person can read said personal announcement on said display, in order to avoid disturbing others by using loudspeakers.

15. Claims 9, 11, 14, 15, 18, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rankin et al. (2002/0135515) in view of McCarten et al. (5,959,596), in further view of Poch (5,152,003), in further view of Kumano (5,978,754).

With respect to claims 11 and 19, Rankin discloses forming a personal announcement ([0029], public address or advertisements are provided in the chosen language).

Rankin, McCarten, and Poch do not specifically mention real-time translation of a text announcement and making said personal announcement accessible by means of a display allocated to said respective person, whereby said respective person can read said personal announcement on said display.

Kumano discloses textual real-time translation, (**Col 5 lines 25-30**), and making the translation accessible by means of a display, whereby a person can read the translation on said display (**Fig 1**, translated sentence display section 107).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch such that said announcement is a text announcement and said method includes translating said

announcement by real-time computer translation into the respective language choice of a respective person to form said personal announcement, and making said personal announcement accessible by means of a display allocated to said respective person, whereby said respective person can read said personal announcement on said display, as taught by Kumano, in order to avoid storing translations in advance.

With respect to claim 14, Rankin, McCarten, and Poch do not specifically mention a real-time translation module for providing any one or more of: text to text, text to voice, voice to voice, and voice to text real-time translation, so that said system can provide real-time translations of said announcement.

Kumano discloses a real-time translation module for providing text to text real-time translation (**Col 5 lines 25-30**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch to include a real-time translation module for providing text to text real-time translation, for reasons similar to those of claim 11.

With respect to claim 15, Rankin, McCarten, and Poch do not specifically mention said module comprises a server provided with real-time translation software.

Kumano discloses a module comprises a server provided with real-time translation software (**Fig 1, Col 5 lines 25-30**).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch such that a module comprises a server provided with real-time translation software, for reasons similar to those of claim 11.

With respect to claims 9 and 18, Rankin and McCarten do not specifically mention a personal announcement comprises a prerecorded audio translation of an announcement in a respective language choice of a respective person, played over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person.

Poch discloses a personal announcement comprises a prerecorded audio translation of an announcement in a respective language choice of a respective person, played over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person **(Fig 2, Speaker, Col 3 lines 65-67)**.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin and McCarten such that a personal announcement comprises a prerecorded audio translation of an announcement in a respective language choice of a respective person, played over one or more personal loudspeakers located proximate said respective person, in order to provide easy access for retrieval of the messages, as suggested by Poch **(Col 4 lines 3-5)**.

Rankin, McCarten, and Poch do not specifically mention a real-time translation module.

Kumano discloses a real-time translation module **(Col 5 lines 25-30)**.

It would have been further obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the invention of Rankin, McCarten, and Poch to include a real-time translation module, in order to translate messages that are not stored in memory.

Conclusion

16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jesse Pullias whose telephone number is

571/270-5135. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

17. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on 571/272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571/270-6135.

18. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Jesse S Pullias/
Examiner, Art Unit 2626

/Talivaldis Ivars Smits/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2626
6/15/2009